

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

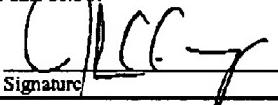
In re Application of:  
Wainwright, John  
§  
Serial No.: 09/426,143  
§  
Confirmation No.: 1474  
§  
Filed: October 22, 1999  
§  
For: SPECIFYING OPERATIONS TO BE  
APPLIED TO THE ATTRIBUTES OF  
A SET OF OBJECTS  
§

Group Art Unit: 2672

Examiner: Harrison, Chante E. ENTERED IN FAX CENTER

JAN 14 2005

Mail Stop: Box Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR 1.8	
<p>I hereby certify that this correspondence and the documents referred to as attached thereto are being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to the fax number indicated by the Examiner, namely, fax number (703) 872-9306 to the attention of the named Examiner, on the date below.</p>	
<u>1/14/05</u> Date	 Signature

**REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION**

Dear Sir:

Applicant is filing a Request for Continued Examination (RCE). The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the \$790 RCE fee to counsel's Deposit Account No. 20-0782/AVAN/000338/JC as well as any other fees, including extension of time fees or excess claim fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

Remarks begin on page 2 of this paper.

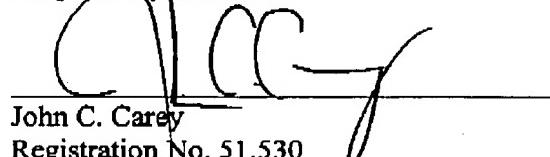
REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are currently pending in the application. Applicant is filing an RCE to continue prosecuting the pending claims. Applicant is submitting with the RCE the response to the Final Office Action that Applicant originally filed on July 14, 2004 (facsimile filing confirmation attached). For whatever reason, this response was not entered into the record or considered by the Examiner. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner enter this response into the record and reconsider the arguments included in that response.

Conclusion

If the Examiner has any questions, please contact the Applicant's undersigned representative at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,



John C. Carey  
Registration No. 51,530  
MOSER, PATTERSON & SHERIDAN, L.L.P.  
3040 Post Oak Blvd., Suite 1500  
Houston, Texas 77056-6582  
Telephone: (650) 330-2310  
Facsimile: (650) 330-2314

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**

PTO/SB/30 (00-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006, OMB 0651-0031  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no person is required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Request For Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal</b></p> <p>Address to: Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450</p>	<b>Application Number</b>	09/426,143
	<b>Filing Date</b>	October 22, 1999
	<b>First Named Inventor</b>	John Walnwright <b>CENT</b>
	<b>Art Unit</b>	2672 <b>JAN</b>
	<b>Examiner Name</b>	Chanta E. Harrison
<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	AUTO/0034	

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

<p><b>1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. 1.114</b></p> <p>Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).</p>	
<p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.</p> <p>i. <input type="checkbox"/> Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____ ii. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</p>	
<p>b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enclosed</p> <p>i. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply ii. <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)</p> <p>iii. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) iv. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</p>	
<p><b>2. Miscellaneous</b></p> <p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(i) required)</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</p>	
<p><b>3. Fees</b> The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. 1.114 when the RCE is filed.</p> <p>a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 20-0782/AUTO 0034</p> <p>i. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(e) ii. <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. 1.136 and 1.17) iii. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed</p> <p>c. <input type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)</p> <p><b>WARNING:</b> Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.</p>	

<b>SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED</b>			
Name (Print /Type)	John C. Carey	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	51,530
Signature		Date	1/14/05

<b>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION</b>			
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.			
Name (Print /Type)	John C. Carey	Date	1/14/05
Signature		Date	1/14/05

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

**This Page is Inserted by IFW Indexing and Scanning  
Operations and is not part of the Official Record**

## **BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES**

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images include but are not limited to the items checked:

- BLACK BORDERS**
- IMAGE CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES**
- FADED TEXT OR DRAWING**
- BLURRED OR ILLEGIBLE TEXT OR DRAWING**
- SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES**
- COLOR OR BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPHS**
- GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS**
- LINES OR MARKS ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT**
- REFERENCE(S) OR EXHIBIT(S) SUBMITTED ARE POOR QUALITY**
- OTHER:** \_\_\_\_\_

**IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.**

**As rescanning these documents will not correct the image problems checked, please do not report these problems to the IFW Image Problem Mailbox.**